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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01 AF-10 EUR-12 HA-05
/092 W
----------055706 100255Z /14
O 100128Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1254
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01874

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH FRONTLINE STATES, NIGERIA, AND GABON

1. CONTACT GROUP AGREED MAY 9 AD REFERENDUM ON TALKING POINTS CONCERNING NAMIBIA (PARA FOUR BELOW) FOR USE IN APPROACHES TO GOVERNMENTS OF FRONTLINE STATES, NIGERIA, AND GABON. APPROACHES SHOULD BE MADE BY WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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2. THE TALKING POINTS INCLUDE PREVIOUSLY-APPROVED POSITION ON WALVIS BAY. IT IS LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT WE WILL SOON BE FACED WITH THE NEED TO TAKE A POSITION ON A MORE FAR-REACHING RESOLUTION ON WALVIS BAY. THE CONTACT GROUP, THEREFORE, WILL DISCUSS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR CONTINGENCY

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CONSIDERATION BY CAPITALS. GROUP DECIDED, HOWEVER,
THAT ABOVE APPROACH SHOULD NOT/NOT BE DELAYED FOR FURTHER
CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSION ON WALVIS BAY.

3. FOR LIBREVILLE: APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO BONGO
IN HIS CAPACITY AS OAU PRESIDENT.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TALKING POINTS:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. WE BELIEVE FIRMLY THAT THERE WAS NO
JUSTIFICATION FOR THE RECENT SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON
ANGOLA AND HAVE EXPRESSED THIS VIEW BOTH PUBLICLY
AND DIRECTLY TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS.

2. WE HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT SWAPO AND THE FRONTLINE
STATES WILL NOT ALLOW THIS SOUTH AFRICAN ACTION, WHICH
MAY HAVE BEEN CONCEIVED BY THOSE ELEMENTS WITHIN SOUTH
AFRICA WHO DO NOT WISH A SETTLEMENT ALONG THE LINES
WE HAVE PROPOSED, TO SPOIL THE CHANCE FOR SUCH A
SETTLEMENT WHICH IS STILL WITHIN REACH.

3. WE DOUBT THAT WE WILL AGAIN SOON COME AS CLOSE TO
A SETTLEMENT AS WE ARE NOW. ON THE CONTRARY, UNLESS
WE REACH A SETTLEMENT, THE CYCLE OF REPRESSION AND
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VIOLENCE WILL INCREASE IN FREQUENCY AND SCALE. SOUTH
AFRICA'S ACTION IS ONLY THE LATEST EVENT IN THIS CYCLE
AND ONE WHICH WILL SURELY BE FOLLOWED BY RETALIATORY
ACTION BY SWAPO. IF THE INCIDENCE OF VIOLENCE CONTINUES
TO SPIRAL UPWARD, THE WHOLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA MAY BE
THREATENED. ON THE OTHER HAND, A SETTLEMENT NOW MAY
HAVE POSITIVE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENTIRE REGION,
PARTICULARLY RHODESIA, ANGOLA, ZAMBIA AND EVEN SOUTH
AFRICA.

4. THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS TO GET AN AGREEMENT
WHICH PUTS A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF UN MILITARY AND
CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ON THE GROUND IN NAMIBIA. ONCE
THOSE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT, THE PROCESS OF NAMIBIAN
INDEPENDENCE UNDER INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS
WILL PROCEED TO ITS INEVITABLE CONCLUSION WHATEVER
RESERVATIONS OR DESIRED OUTCOMES THE PARTIES MAY
SECRETLY HARBOR. CERTAINLY A TERRITORY FREE OF SOUTH
AFRICAN MILITARY FORCES AND WITH SUBSTANTIAL
UNITED NATIONS PRESENCE PROVIDES A BETTER OPPORTUNITY
THAN AT PRESENT TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF SELF-
DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE.

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5. WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY ONE MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE, WALVIS BAY, CURRENTLY STANDS IN THE WAY OF SETTLEMENT, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH SWAPO POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS ON THIS REMAINING QUESTION. ONE SUCH SUGGESTION WOULD BE: A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION MIGHT BE ADOPTED, AT THE SAME TIME AS THE RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE CONTACT GROUP'S PROPOSAL, WHICH WOULD:
- NOTE THE PROFOUND ADMINISTRATIVE, GEOGRAPHIC, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, CULTURAL, AND ETHNIC TIES BETWEEN WALVIS BAY AND NAMIBIA;

- STATE THE COUNCIL'S EXPECTATION THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01874

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF NAMIBIA AND THAT THESE MUST
RESULT IN THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WALVIS BAY INTO
NAMIBIA;

- COMMIT THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO LENDING ITS
SULL SUPPORT TO THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF SUCH
NEGOTIATIONS.
THE FIVE WOULD BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR SUCH A RESOLUTION
AND WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT SETTING OUT THEIR READINESS
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TO ASSIST IN SUCH NEGOTIATIONS, IF SO REQUESTED.

6. WE UNDERSTAND SWAPO'S REASONS FOR DECIDING NOT TO
PARTICIPATE IN TALKS WITH THE CONTACT GROUP IN
NEW YORK ON MAY 8. WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT THEY
DECIDED NOT TO BREAK OFF THE TALKS AND WE HOPE THAT
WE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
WITH SWAPO THEIR REMAINING CONCERNS. IN THE MEANTIME,
WE ASSUME THAT NUJOMA AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
WILL BE MEETING. THEY WILL MAKE SOME CRUCIAL
DECISIONS IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH ARE UNDERSTANDABLY
EMOTIONAL BUT WHERE COOL HEADS MUST PREVAIL.

7, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF YOU COULD IMPRESS
UPON SWAPO, EVEN IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE TRAGIC RAID
IN ANGOLA, THE ADVANTAGES OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT
AND THE NEED TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION BEFORE ADDITIONAL COM-
PLEXITIES OCCUR. END TEXT.

8. AS THIS CABLE WAS BEING CLEARED, CANADIANS CALLED
TO SAY THAT ON REFLECTION THEY FELT STRONGLY THAT
ALTERATION SHOULD BE MADE IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARA
FOUR OF TALKING POINTS ABOVE. THEY BELIEVE THAT
THE WORD "VIRTUALLY" SHOULD BE ADDED IMMEDIATELY
BEFORE THE WORD "FREE". IN FACE OF THEIR INSISTENCE
AND IN INTEREST OF TIME WE HAVE RELUCTANTLY AGREED.
THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP HAVE ALSO NOW
AGREED. YOUNG

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2729542
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH FRONTLINE STATES, NIGERIA, AND GABON
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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